

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-9, and 11-20 are pending in the present application, claims 14 and 15 having been added herein. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended during the interview on October 19, 2010. The present amendment is submitted in accordance with the discussions therein, and the remarks below summarize what was discussed during the interview.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter of claimed invention. Applicants have amended the claims to overcome this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103

Claims 1, 7, 11, 14 and 15, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over German Publication 22 25 152 ("Haas") in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,539,826 ("Boutelle") and/or U.S. Patent No. 1,539,826 ("Grace") and/or U.S. Patent No. 3,876,318 ("Crispell") and/or U.S. Patent No. 4,397,484 ("Miller") and/or U.S. Patent No. 5,299,375 ("Thummel") and/or U.S. Patent No. 5,997,012 ("Brian"). Claims 4, 5, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over GP'152 in view of Clark, and/or Cherry and/or Parr and/or Heine and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,285,642 ("Sauer"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that 1) threaded holes are **radially** provided on the roll core and the inside of the shells, respectively accommodating a fastening pin for non-rotary connection of the shells with the roll core; and 2) to include the limitations of claims 14 and 15, relating to the construction of the fastening pin. Independent claim 16 has been added, which corresponds to claim 1 without the limitations of claims 14 and 15. Dependent claims 17 -19 have been added to recite that there are multiple shells adjacent to one another on the roll core and the bristles are angled to cover gaps between the shells, and that there are multiple brush rolls on the roll core and the bristles are angled to cover gaps between brush rolls, respectively. Dependent claim 20 has been added which depends from claim 16 and recites that the fastening means fixes the shells **directly** to the roll core.

With respect to the independent claims, as shown in Fig. 2 of Haas, the holes for the fastening pins are essentially tangentially disposed on the shells. They are not radially provided on the roll core and shells. For at least that reason, claims 1 and 16 are believed to be patentable over the prior art of record.

With respect to claims 17 - 19, Haas does not disclose bristles covering the gaps between the two adjacent shells, nor does it disclose multiple brush rolls on the roll core, and bristles covering the gaps between the roll cores. For at least that reason, claims 17 – 19 are believed to be patentable over the prior art of record.

With respect to claim 20, the sleeve (shell) 6 in Haas is not fixed to the roll core 10; it is fixed to the ring 9. For at least that reason, claim 20 is believed to be patentable over the prior art of record.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the limitations of claims 1 and 16 are not found in the prior art, whether taken alone or in combination as proposed in the Office Action. Further, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the teachings of the cited references, absent impermissible hindsight reference to Applicant's disclosure. Claims 4-5, 7, 11-12 and 14-20 are dependent from and include the limitations of claims 1 or 16, and are believed to be patentable in and of themselves and for the reasons discussed above.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections of record. Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-628-5197.

Respectfully submitted,

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